the country and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the OMCs through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors.

At present the indigenous production of LPG is inadequate to meet domestic requirements. The domestic LPG production in 2007-08 was 8829 TMT. The shortfall in availability is met through imports.

OMCs have also reported that domestic LPG production is expected to increase to 12.8 million metric tonnes by the end of Xlth Five-year Plan with the completion of their various on-going upgradation and expansion projects in their existing refineries as well as commissioning of new refineries.

Selling of old oil fields

3811. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

whether he agrees with reforms option as projected in Economic Survery 2007-08 regarding selling of old oil fields to private sector for application of improved/enhanced Oil Recovery Techniques;

if so, the reason therefor; and

if not, whether the same has been informed to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) There is no proposal with the Government to sell old oil fields to private sector companies for application of Improved/Enhanced Oil Recovery Techniques.

Oil and gas from Turkmenistan

3812. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

whether India and Turkmenistan recently signed a MoU cooperation in the oil and gas sector;

if so, the details thereof;

whether Turkmenistan will provide gas and oil to India on some conditional basis;

if so, the details thereof; and

to what extent the present position of gas and oil will improve as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Ministry of Oil/Gas Industry and Mineral Resources of Turkmenistan was signed in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan on 5th April, 2008, during the visit of Uprashtrapatiji to Turkmenistan. The objective of the MoU is to establish an institutional relationship to develop bilateral cooperation in the field of oil and gas.

(c) to (e) India is pursuing import of natural gas from Turkmenistan through the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) Gas Pipeline Project. TAPI pipeline is